

## Mayor and City Council Support Valley Coalition For the UC, Merced's Medical School

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FRESNO, CA** (June 18, 2009) The Mayor and Fresno City Council issued support for the continued planning of the University of California Merced's School of Medicine in a proclamation sponsored by Councilmember Andreas Borgeas.

The proclamation was awarded to the Valley Coalition for UC Merced's Medical School, an organization comprised of elected officials, medical professionals and hospitals throughout the nine county region of the San Joaquin Valley whose purpose is to provide recommendations as how to best develop a UC quality program that meets the needs of the San Joaquin Valley.

Councilmember Borgeas stated, "The San Joaquin Valley has 24 percent fewer physicians and 50 percent fewer specialists than the rest of the state." He further stated, "Having a medical school in the San Joaquin Valley, that will address the health needs of the Valley, will be the single most important action to address this shortage."

## For additional information please contact:

Stephen F. Sotomayor, Chief of Staff, Council District 2 (Councilmember Borgeas) at 559.621.7820